



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture

Issue: 07-20 Released: October 29, 2007

HIGHLIGHTS

Hay Production
Sugar Beet Production
Canola Production
Egg Production
Cattle on Feed
Wheat Utilization
Red Meat Production
Milk Production

October 1, 2007 Crop Production

Alfalfa hay production in Montana is estimated to be 3.47 million tons, up 6 percent from the previous year. Alfalfa hay yield decreased from the August forecast of 2.20 tons per acre to 2.10 tons. Harvested area, at 1.65 million acres, remained unchanged from August, but is up 100,000 acres from 2006. Other hay yield is down 0.1 ton per acre from August's forecast to 1.50 tons per acre, but unchanged from last year. Other hay production is expected to be 1.35 million tons, up 27 percent from 2006. Other hay harvested area is unchanged from August at 0.9 million acres, but is up 190,000 acres from 2006. All hay production is estimated to be 4.82 million tons, up 11 percent from last year. All hay yield is estimated to be 1.89 tons per acre, down 0.02 ton per acre from last year.

Montana's sugar beet production is forecast at 1.22 million tons for 2007, unchanged from the September forecast, but 7 percent below 2006. Forecasted yield, at 26.0 tons per acre, is also unchanged from September, but down 1.0 ton per acre from last year. Harvested acreage, at 47,000 acres, is unchanged from September, but down 1,500 acres from last year.

Montana canola producers expect to harvest 7,700 acres in 2007, compared with 9,800 in 2006. Yield is expected to be 1,600 pounds per acre, up 43 percent from last year. Production is expected to total 12.3 million pounds, compared with 11.0 million pounds last year.

In the United States, alfalfa hay production is forecast at 72.3 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 1 percent from last year.

Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.37 tons per acre, up 0.11 ton from August and up 0.02 ton from 2006. Harvested area is forecast at 21.5 million acres, unchanged from August but slightly above the previous year's acreage.

U.S. other hay production is forecast at 75.6 million tons, up slightly from the August forecast and up 8 percent from 2006. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 1.87 tons, the same as the August forecast but up 0.09 ton from last year. Harvested area, at 40.3 million acres, is unchanged from August but up 2 percent from the previous year.

Sugar beet production in the U.S. is forecast at 30.4 million tons, 1 percent above the September forecast but 11 percent below last year's production of 34.1 million tons. Growers expect to harvest 1.24 million acres, unchanged from September but down 5 percent from last year. The yield is forecast at 24.5 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from last month but down 1.6 tons from the 2006 record high yield.

The first U.S. canola production forecast for 2007 is 1.50 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2006. Area planted, at 1.18 million acres, is up 2 percent from the June estimate and up 13 percent from last year. Canola farmers expect to harvest 1.14 million acres, up 2 percent from June and up 12 percent from 2006. The October yield forecast, at 1,312 pounds per acre, is 54 pounds below last year's yield. North Dakota's yield, at 1,310 pounds per acre, is down 60 pounds from last year.

September Egg Production

U.S. egg production totaled 7.37 billion during September 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.27 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2007 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from last year. September egg production per 100 layers

was 2,169 eggs, up slightly from September 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2007 totaled 340 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 340 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.76 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2007, averaged 72.7 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from October 1, 2006.

Egg-type chicks hatched during September 2007 totaled 35.3 million, down 4 percent from September 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 33.4 million on October 1, 2007, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 300 thousand during September 2007, up 15 percent from September 2006.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during September 2007 totaled 784 million, up 2 percent from September 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 647 million on October 1, 2007, up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.33 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2007, up 4 percent from September 2006.

Montana Agricultural Statistics 2007 Book Available Soon

The annual report contains state and county crop and livestock estimates, farm income, prices, farm numbers, Montana's rank among states, and other statistical data.

The Montana Agricultural Statistics 2007 book will be available in December in printed form or on our website at www.nass.usda.gov/mt/. The price for the printed book is \$10.00. Those who supply survey information are not charged.

October 1, 2007 Crop Production Forecast, Montana and U.S.

Crop	Unit	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield		Production	
		2006	2007 1/	2006	2007 1/	2006	2007 1/	2006	2007 1/
		(000) Acres	(000) Acres	(000) Acres	(000) Acres			(000) Units	(000) Units
Winter Wheat	Bu	1,950.0	2,240.0	1,920.0	2,190.0	43.0	38.0	82,560	83,220
Durum Wheat	Bu	400.0	480.0	395.0	475.0	17.0	24.0	6,715	11,400
Spring Wheat	Bu	2,950.0	2,450.0	2,900.0	2,400.0	22.0	23.0	63,800	55,200
All Wheat	Bu	5,300.0	5,170.0	5,215.0	5,065.0	29.4	29.6	153,075	149,820
Barley	Bu	770.0	900.0	620.0	720.0	50.0	44.0	31,000	31,680
Oats	Bu	70.0	75.0	24.0	35.0	46.0	52.0	1,104	1,820
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu	65.0	82.0	18.0	22.0	146.0	4/	2,628	4/
Sugar Beets	Tons	53.6	47.5	48.5	47.0	27.0	26.0	1,310	1,222
Fall Potatoes	Cwt	10.6	10.8	10.5	10.7	335.0	3/	3,518	3/
Dry Beans	Cwt	19.5	18.0	18.6	17.0	16.4	18.0	305	306
Dry Peas	Cwt	210.0	265.0	191.0	240.0	10.8	3/	2,063	3/
Lentils	Cwt	142.0	85.0	134.0	80.0	6.0	3/	804	3/
Aus. Winter Peas	Cwt	32.0	18.0	12.0	10.0	9.2	3/	110	3/
Canola	Lbs	10.0	8.0	9.8	7.7	1,120.0	1,600.0	10,976	12,320
Flaxseed	Bu	35.0	30.0	33.0	29.0	9.0	4/	297	4/
Safflower	Lbs	39.0	53.0	37.0	50.0	750.0	4/	27,750	4/
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	1,550.0	1,650.0	2.10	2.10	3,255	3,465
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	710.0	900.0	1.50	1.50	1,065	1,350
All Hay	Ton	--	--	2,260.0	2,550.0	1.91	1.89	4,320	4,815
UNITED STATES		(000) Acres	(000) Acres	(000) Acres	(000) Acres			(000) Units	(000) Units
Winter Wheat	Bu	40,575.0	44,987.0	31,117.0	35,952.0	41.7	42.2	1,298,081	1,515,989
Durum Wheat	Bu	1,870.0	2,149.0	1,815.0	2,112.0	29.5	33.9	53,475	71,686
Spring Wheat	Bu	14,899.0	13,297.0	13,878.0	12,947.0	33.2	37.0	460,480	479,047
All Wheat	Bu	57,344.0	60,433.0	46,810.0	51,011.0	38.7	40.5	1,812,036	2,066,722
Barley	Bu	3,452.0	4,020.0	2,951.0	3,508.0	61.0	60.4	180,165	211,825
Oats	Bu	4,168.0	3,760.0	1,566.0	1,505.0	59.8	60.9	93,638	91,599
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu	78,327.0	93,616.0	70,648.0	86,071.0	149.1	154.7	10,534,868	13,318,102
Sugar Beets	Ton	1,366.2	1,263.0	1,303.6	1,241.4	26.1	24.5	34,064	30,382
Fall Potatoes	Cwt	978.9	1,009.2	976.2	996.2	402.0	3/	391,978	3/
Dry Beans	Cwt	1,629.8	1,527.3	1,537.6	1,462.5	15.8	17.3	24,247	25,264
Dry Peas	Cwt	925.5	880.5	884.1	834.3	15.0	3/	13,203	3/
Lentils	Cwt	429.0	305.0	407.0	293.0	8.0	3/	3,244	3/
Aus. Winter Peas	Cwt	46.0	27.0	22.5	17.0	11.5	3/	259	3/
Canola	Lbs	1,044.0	1,183.0	1,021.0	1,144.0	1,366.0	1,312.0	1,394,332	1,501,341
Flaxseed	Bu	813.0	465.0	767.0	453.0	14.4	4/	11,019	4/
Safflower	Lbs	189.0	170.0	179.0	162.5	1,069.0	4/	191,405	4/
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	21,384.0	21,451.0	3.35	3.37	71,666	72,347
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	39,423.0	40,338.0	1.78	1.87	70,000	75,617
All Hay	Ton	--	--	60,807.0	61,789.0	2.33	2.39	141,666	147,964

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Planted for all purposes. 3/ Forecast available November 9, 2007. 4/ Available January 11, 2008. -- Not published.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Down 4 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.0 million head on October 1, 2007. The inventory was 4 percent below October 1, 2006 but 5 percent above October 1, 2005. The inventory included 6.83 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory.

Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.07 million head, down 1 percent from 2006.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.43 million, 9 percent above 2006 and 3 percent above 2005. Net placements were 2.37 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 610,000, 600-699 pounds were 505,000, 700-799 pounds were

570,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 740,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.71 million, 3 percent below 2006 and 6 percent below 2005. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 54,000 during September, 21 percent below 2006 and 5 percent below 2005.

The total wheat supply in Montana for June 2006-May 2007 was 192.2 million bushels, down 21 percent from the previous year. Total supply is calculated by adding the all wheat production in 2006 to the June 2006 all wheat stocks. Total disposition during this period was 161.7 million bushels, 21 percent less than the previous year. The ending stocks on June 1, 2007 were 30.5 million

Montana shipped 129.8 million bushels out of state during June 2006-May 2007, 22 percent less wheat than what was moved out of state the prior year. A total of 106.2 million bushels were sent to Pacific Northwest destinations.

Inspected exports of hard red winter, hard red spring, hard white, and durum wheat from Pacific ports were 241.3 million bushels, up 5 percent from the previous year. Montana's recorded share of those exports was 38 percent, down 24 percent from the previous year.

WHEAT: Supply and Disposition, Montana, June 1, 2002-2006						
	2002	2003	2004	2005 1/	2006	2006/2005
	Million Bushels					Percent
SUPPLY						
Beginning Stocks 2/	57.3	41.6	40.4	51.3	39.1	76
Production	110.7	142.3	173.2	192.5	153.1	80
Total Supply	168.0	183.9	213.6	243.8	192.2	79
DISPOSITION						
Recorded movement out of state 3/	114.7	120.2	122.9	165.7	129.8	78
Used for seed in Montana	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.5	98
Residual 3/, 4/	5.9	17.4	33.7	33.4	26.4	76
Total Disposition	126.4	143.5	162.3	204.7	161.7	79
Pacific Northwest exports as a percent of total disposition	53%	48%	48%	56%	57%	
Ending Stocks 2/	41.6	40.4	51.3	39.1	30.5	78

1/ Revised 2/ June 1 stocks, All Positions 3/ Montana Wheat Movement Project
4/ Used for flour, livestock feed, handling losses, and other unaccounted disappearance

REE WHEAT: Recorded Movement by Destination, Montana, June-May, 2002-2006						
	2002	2003	2004	2005 1/	2006	2006/2005
	Million Bushels					Percent
All Destinations	130.6	128.8	132.1	173.7	137.7	79
Out of Montana	114.7	120.2	122.9	165.7	129.8	78
Pacific Northwest Destinations	80.9	84.1	89.9	129.7	106.2	82
Export Destinations	67.0	68.5	77.5	114.5	92.4	81
Export Facilities	64.7	65.6	76.0	113.2	91.7	81
Columbia/Snake River Barge System	2.3	2.9	1.5	1.3	0.7	54
Processing Destinations	13.9	15.6	12.4	15.2	13.8	91
Interior Oregon & Washington Facilities	10.7	10.9	9.0	13.6	13.1	96
Mills	3.2	4.7	3.4	1.6	0.7	44
Non-Pacific Northwest Destinations	33.8	36.1	33.0	36.0	23.6	66
Montana Destinations	15.9	8.6	9.2	8.0	7.9	99
Inspected exports of Hard Red Spring, Hard Red Winter, Hard White, and Durum Wheat from Pacific ports 2/	200.2	205.5	239.3	230.5	241.3	105
Montana recorded exports as percent of total Hard Red Spring, Hard Red Winter, Hard White and Durum exports from Pacific ports 2/	33%	33%	32%	50%	38%	

1/ Revised 2/ Oregon and Washington ports
PLEASE NOTE: Funding for the above statistics was provided by the Montana Wheat & Barley Committee.

September 2007 Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.4 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during September 2007, down 9 percent from August, but up 33 percent from a year ago. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,600 head, up 500 head from a year ago. The average live weight decreased 22 pounds from 2006 to 1,188 pounds.

During September there were 1,200 hogs slaughtered, up 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 244 pounds, dropped 1 pound from last year. September sheep slaughter in the state totaled 400 head, 100 head below September 2006. The average live weight increased 14 pounds to 122 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.86 billion pounds in September, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in September 2006.

Beef production, at 2.09 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from September 2006. The average

live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds.

Veal production totaled 9.4 million pounds, 22 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,000 head, down 3 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was down 68 pounds from last year, at 283 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.75 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.77 million head, down 1 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 266 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from September 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 210,600 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, unchanged from September a year ago.

January to September 2007 commercial red meat production was 35.7 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 2

percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

September Milk Production up 3.1 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during September totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from September 2006. August production, unrevised at 14.3 billion pounds, was up 3.6 percent from August 2006.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,644 pounds for September, 31 pounds above September 2006.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.34 million head, 91,000 head more than September 2006, and 12,000 head more than August 2007.

Milk production in the U.S. during the July - September quarter totaled 46.1 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 44,000 head more than the same period last year.

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

Ag Prices Received	Lentil Production
Austrian Winter Pea Production	Dry Bean Production
Dry Pea Production	Potato Production
	Sugar Beet Production
	2007 Crop Year summary

Peggy Stringer, Director
John Hilton, Deputy Director
Wendy Bruski, Statistical Info Assistant
10 W 15th Street, Helena, MT 59626
406-441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612
www.nass.usda.gov/mt/ nass-mt@nass.usda.gov